

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

#### HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. LEWIS. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of National Foster Care Month.

For more than thirty years, the month of May has given voice to the unique, often complicated needs and situations of young people in our nation's foster care system. Sadly, too many of our young people are at risk of being left out and left behind. The pandemic only exacerbated the neglect and abuse of young people of all races, ages, and backgrounds in Georgia and across our country.

For these reasons, it is important that, during National Foster Care Month, we recognize the nearly half million children who are currently in our nation's child welfare system. Madam Speaker, they must know that, despite all that is happening in our nation and around the world, I along with many other Members of Congress, mentors, volunteers, friends, and extended families love and value each and every young person in foster care.

We must recommit to doing all we can to maximize their capacity and reaffirm our belief in their hopes, dreams, and aspirations. Foster youth must trust and know that, on the darkest of days, we are always in their corner, and they are always in our hearts and thoughts.

We must each do our part to ensure that every young person and aspiring adoptive and foster parent is able to fulfill their dreams of a stable, loving family. Many adults want to open their homes and their hearts, but they face barriers because the system says that they practice the wrong religion, love the wrong person, or are not married. Many children enter the system because of similar discrimination, and some experience it while in public care.

For these reasons, I am proud to sponsor the bipartisan Every Child Deserves a Family Act to end discrimination in our child welfare system and expand every opportunity for a safe, forever family. I will continue working with my colleagues to pass this critical legislation and provide much-needed protections for children and adults in the child welfare system.

Inspired by the experiences of many former foster youth in Metro Atlanta, I am deeply concerned about the more than 20,000 youth who age out of the foster care system every year. Government authorities share a unique and distinct responsibility to support those youth who transition from foster care to independent living. Far too often, these young adults go on to receive less education, hold fewer jobs, experience more homelessness and housing instability, and often experience imprisonment at higher rates than their peers who did not experience foster care.

Federal, state, and local government have a moral duty to do all we can to protect and as-

sist young people during and after their transition from foster care. The current coronavirus pandemic exposed the difficulties that many of foster youth face in navigating adolescence and adulthood with limited support. Government programs and authorities are often their only available resource, and we must do all we can to help restore hope and opportunities to young people and address the real, critical disparities they face prior to, during, and beyond this pandemic. I plan to introduce a comprehensive legislative package soon to do just that.

During this National Foster Care Month, may we all be rededicated to the task of lifting up the young people entrusted to our nation's care while preparing and enabling them to succeed.

### HONORING THE LIFE OF ARMY SPC. JUAN MIGUEL MENDEZ COVARRUBIAS

#### HON. TJ COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. COX of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Army Specialist Juan Miguel Mendez Covarrubias of Hanford, California, who gave his life in service to his country on March 11, 2020. While deployed in support of Operation Inherent Resolve at Camp Taji, Iraq, his unit was engaged by enemy indirect fire and he lost his life. He was 27 years old.

A Central Valley native, Juan Miguel was a beloved son, brother, and husband. In 2018 he married his longtime girlfriend Bianca Meza and that same year he enlisted in the United States Army as a Signal Support System Specialist. Juan Miguel was assigned to 1st Battalion, 227th Aviation Regiment, 1st Air Cavalry Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

Juan Miguel aspired to make the world a better place and always pushed himself to lead by example. He is remembered fondly as someone with a big heart and who always put the needs of others before his own. Our nation has lost a great warrior. He is a true American Hero and his memory will live on in the hearts of those who love him.

Juan Miguel's awards and decorations include the Global War on Terrorism Medal, National Defense Service Ribbon, and the Army Service Ribbon. I ask my colleagues to join me in a moment of remembrance for Army Specialist Juan Miguel Mendez Covarrubias, and for all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Juan Miguel is survived by his wife Bianca, his mother Monica Mendez, his father Alfredo Covarrubias and his younger brother and sisters.

### HONORING THE LIFE OF MICHAEL MORALES (LTC USAF RET.)

#### HON. JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor the life and service of my friend, Michael Morales LTC from Naranjito, Puerto Rico who passed away on May 8, 2020 at the young age of forty-two.

Michael was proud to serve his country. He joined the United States Air Force, serving in distinguished roles such as the principal manager for multinational military exercises covering 32 nations across Central America, South America, and the Caribbean, also as instructor and evaluator pilot for the C-7 and C-130, as Commander of the 538th Air Expeditionary Advisory Squadron, and as a Legislative Liaison for the Secretary of Defense on acquisitions and sustainment on programs for the new Air Force One and KC-46 air tanker programs.

He also served as a Senior Advisor to former Small Business Administrator Linda McMahon and was responsible for bringing the Secretary to the Island for HUBZone events geared towards fueling small business growth in historically underutilized business zones. As a Senior Advisor to the Administrator, he also led the agency's policy efforts in Puerto Rico; working closely with federal and local government, banking sector, and entrepreneurs to develop policy aimed at fostering entrepreneurial repatriation, economic growth, and assist with the Island's economic status.

Michael lived a life of public service. President Woodrow Wilson once said that "You are not here merely to make a living. You are here to enable the world to live more amply, with greater vision, and with a finer spirit of hope and achievement. You are here to enrich the world. . . ." Michael was the best of us, an example to us all.

Thank you, Michael. *Rest in Peace.*  
Descansa en Paz.

### OBSERVING THE 102ND ANNIVERSARY OF AZERBAIJAN'S REPUBLIC

#### HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, as Co-Chair of the Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus, I rise today to recognize Azerbaijan on the occasion of its 102nd Republic Day. Azerbaijan is a critical partner of the United States in the region and maintains a proud heritage as an independent country.

Upon declaring independence in 1918, Azerbaijan earned the unique distinction of

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

being the first secular parliamentary democracy in the Muslim world. Azerbaijan was also among the first states to grant women the right to vote. This stands as a testament to the Islamic world of the universal validity of democratic aspirations, and that self-government and the respect for individual rights is not inimical to their traditions.

Unfortunately, Azerbaijani independence was soon snuffed out by totalitarian USSR, which, not unlike Russia under Vladimir Putin, sought to spread values much different to those espoused by the fledgling Azerbaijan Democratic Republic. After the fall of the Soviet Union, Azerbaijan regained its independence and was recognized by the United States.

Today, Azerbaijan remains a close partner to the United States and our allies. Not only has Azerbaijan been an integral part of our efforts in Afghanistan, but it has also been an excellent partner in the wider war on terror. It is also noteworthy that as a Muslim country, Azerbaijan enjoys strong relations with the Jewish community and maintains a strong friendship with our ally Israel. Finally, Azerbaijan is a critical energy provider for Europe, playing an important role helping our allies there diversify their energy supply away from a domineering Russia.

With this partnership and Azerbaijan's commitment to our friendship in mind, I would encourage my colleagues to join me today in honoring Azerbaijan on its Republic Day.

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IN MEMORY OF FORMER  
CONGRESSMAN SAM JOHNSON

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**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the life of a trusted colleague, dear friend, proud Texan, and true patriot, former Congressman Sam Johnson.

What impressed me the most is that, after serving in the Air Force during the Korean and Vietnam Wars, Sam Johnson did not disappear into what would have been a well-deserved retirement. His love for his country and affinity for public service led to a fruitful career in the House of Representatives. Known for his tenacity as a legislator and shrewdness as a statesman, Sam Johnson certainly left his mark on this institution. As senior members of the Texas Congressional Delegation, he and I made progress together on important issues that will benefit our home state for years to come.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Texas Congressional Delegation, I'd like to extend my sincere condolences to Sam Johnson's family, friends, and loved ones during these trying times.

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NEW SCANDAL CONFIRMATION

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**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, every day new evidence is revealed

of the scandalous government spying on the Donald Trump Campaign and the rogue FBI and intelligence agencies conspiracy to sabotage the Donald Trump Presidency, I include in the RECORD today's revelations in the The Washington Times by Rowan Scarborough entitled 'Tail wagging the dog':

Not much was going on in the Michael Flynn probe until The Washington Post and a leaker reenergized the FBI, according to a newly disclosed transcript of closed-door testimony by former bureau Director James B. Comey.

The FBI had filled out the paperwork to end the Flynn-Russia probe, but Mr. Comey halted the closing in early January 2017. Transcripts emerged of the incoming White House national security adviser talking by phone with Kremlin envoy Sergey Kislyak.

The retired three-star Army general and Mr. Kislyak talked about not overreacting to economic sanctions that President Obama imposed on Dec. 31, 2016, in retaliation for Moscow's election interference.

Mr. Comey went to work. He provided top-secret call intercept material to Director of National Intelligence James R. Clapper, who told Mr. Obama. At a Jan. 5 White House meeting, the FBI chief and Mr. Obama again discussed that Flynn had talked with Russians during the transition. There is no law, per se, against such communications.

And there things stood, Mr. Comey said in his most extensive narrative of what he did in the pivotal January time frame when the Obama team was leaving the White House to Donald Trump.

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HONORING JUDY GEARHART

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**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and thank Judy Gearhart for her leadership at the International Labor Rights Forum. Judy, the executive director of ILRF since March 2011, will retire in June. While she will leave that position, I know that she will never leave the fight to protect the rights of workers around the world.

In 2013, 1,134 garment workers were killed and 2,500 injured as the 9-story Rana Plaza factory collapsed—the deadliest garment factory disaster in history. The vast majority of those killed and injured as a result of corporate neglect were women. Like the 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire in the United States, the disaster spurred activists to push for reforms. Judy Gearhart helped lead the fight and won agreements with the garment industry to make improvements—although much progress remains to be made. I had the privilege to work with Judy in the aftermath of Rana Plaza and have continued to support her and ILRF on international labor rights campaigns since then. Like so many others, I have relied on her expertise, her experience and her passion for improving the lives of working women, men and children around the world.

Judy has made it her practice not to promote herself, but she focused on lifting up the Labor Rights Defenders who are organizing and mobilizing every day, often at great risk to themselves. She has brought workers' leaders to meet with members of Congress, the Administration, the media and the public—making sure that they have the opportunity to tell

their own stories in their own words. She has spotlighted those who face violent attacks, jail and worse for their courage in speaking out, heroes like Tola Moeun in Cambodia, Mahmud Rajab in Uzbekistan and Gaspar Matalaev in Turkmenistan. Because of Judy and ILRF, there are networks of organizers and advocates around the world who are able to provide needed assistance to those fighting for labor rights.

Judy's work exemplifies the concept of intersectionality. She has seen that there are many different forces used to oppress the rights of workers, and she has worked to bring together those fighting them. Laborers in the fields don't just face poor working conditions but live in societies rife with poverty and racism. Children in the tobacco fields are not just being exploited for their labor but are subjected to environmental and chemical hazards. Women in sweatshops are not just subjected to poverty-level wages, they are often the target of gender-based violence and harassment. As a result of Judy's leadership, last year, the International Labour Organization adopted a convention and recommendations on violence and harassment in the world of work.

Judy Gearhart has done the work, at UNICEF's monitoring and evaluation office, working on women's rights and democratization efforts in Mexico, with the ILO's International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor in Honduras, on developing research and training programs for workers at Social Accountability International, and, of course, at ILRF. Not only does she put her knowledge to work, she shares that knowledge through her teaching. She has served as a tutor for many of us, not just on labor policies but, more importantly, about the facts on the ground. And, more formally, Judy is a long-time adjunct professor at Columbia University's School for International Affairs, where she teaches students about international human rights and development policy.

Judy Gearhart and ILRF have stood with cocoa workers in Cote D'Ivoire and Ghana, cotton workers in Uzbekistan, garment workers in Bangladesh and fruit workers in Honduras. Judy has provided guidance and inspiration to those struggling for fair pay and just treatment for their labors. For all she has done, and for all she will do in the future, I want to express my deep appreciation and gratitude.

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REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF SAM  
FELTON

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**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the extraordinary life of Samuel "Sam" Felton, Jr., one of Lorain County's most honored, visible, and tireless veterans, and a valued father figure for his entire community.

Sam Felton was the only person from Lorain County to win the Navy Cross in Vietnam. He never rested on his laurels and built a legacy of service to Lorain, Ohio. He served three tours of duty during the Vietnam War with the U.S. Marine Corps from December 1968 to August 1971. While serving in Vietnam, he received both the Navy Cross for heroism and

the Purple Heart for being wounded in combat.

The Navy Cross is the second-highest decoration for valor in combat in the Marines and U.S. Navy; fewer than 500 were awarded during the Vietnam War. Sam earned it in June 1969 by valiantly rescuing three wounded Marines during an 11-day battle near An Hoa, Quang Nam Province.

Fifty years later, in 2019, Sam was inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame for his contributions to fellow veterans, the community, and our nation.

Sam owned a karate academy and billiard parlors and worked at U.S. Steel, but his heart and soul was in assisting fellow veterans. In 45 years of veteran advocacy, Sam supported fellow veterans as Commander and Life Member of the Disabled American Veterans Lorain Chapter 20; Ohio Chairman of the Advisory Committee of Valor Home (a nonprofit organization providing services for homeless veterans); delegate to the Lorain Veterans Council; member, First Marine Division Association; member, National Association of Black Veterans; co-founder and three time president of the Lorain Veterans Council and past commander of AMVETS. Sam received the 2006 Vietnam Service Multiple Medals Award, the Ohio Secretary of State's 2007 Outstanding Veterans Award and was named the Lorain Ohio Veteran of the Year in 2010.

In addition to dedicating himself to veterans, Sam advocated for the youth of Lorain County. He founded the Sam Felton Athletic Club and Youth Center, the Jackie Jones Felton Scholarship Fund for college-bound students, co-founded the Samuel Felton Jr. Community Development Program, and worked with kids and veterans interested in musical outreach.

In 2018, the Lorain City Council named a section of East 36th Street "Sgt. Samuel L. Felton Jr. Blvd." to honor Sam for his service to the City of Lorain and its people. For all these awards and acclamations Sam received, he will be remembered admirably by the thousands of people to whom he ministered by providing peer support to fellow veterans, getting them Veterans Affairs services, or even just driving veterans to their appointments. Truly, Sam was a national hero, and a hero of Lorain, Ohio.

We offer Sam Felton's family and friends our prayers and deepest hopes that they find comfort in the wonderful memories and lasting deeds of his precious life. May they find joy in understanding what his legacy meant to each person he touched and his deep dedication to building the people of Lorain forward.

CONGRATULATING ST. ANDREW  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL  
2068

**HON. JOHN JOYCE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I congratulate the St. Andrew Knights of Columbus Council 2068 on reaching its 100th anniversary. The council was founded on May 23, 1920 under the leadership of Grand Knight FJ Foley and chaplain William J. O'Callahan. For a century, the St. Andrew Knights of Columbus Council has

served its religious community and the Waynesboro region at large.

The council's community service includes participating in annual golf tournaments that benefit Waynesboro Human Services, sponsoring monthly "Bring Your Mug to Church" Sundays to foster fellowship among parishioners and support parish activities, as well as providing college scholarships to children of council members. Additionally, the council has participated in the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Adopt-a-Highway program for more than 30 years.

The St. Andrew Knights of Columbus Council 2068 has made an indelible mark on the Waynesboro community. On behalf of the 13th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, I thank this organization for its steadfast commitment to our region and congratulate the council on reaching its 100th anniversary.

#### PROXY VOTING LAWSUIT

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I was grateful to be added as a plaintiff in the important lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of proxy voting initiated by Republican Leader KEVIN MCCARTHY, Whip STEVE SCALISE, and Conference Chair LIZ CHENEY. Congressman MORGAN GRIFFITH, a graduate of Washington and Lee University Law School, of Virginia presented the extraordinary legal arguments clearly documenting proxy voting as unconstitutional.

Allowing Congress to vote remotely is simply irresponsible. Although we are currently in a crisis, this Wuhan Virus pandemic is no excuse to forget our Constitution which clearly says that we have to have a majority of Members present for a quorum to do business.

If Congress was able to vote on the House Floor over these last few months without putting lives at risk, surely Members can conduct official business in a safe manner that follows guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control going forward. During the War of 1812, the Capitol Building itself was burned, but Congress members still met in Washington.

The constitutionality of this new rule must be questioned. Our constitution says that we must have a majority to vote and yet this new rule would allow a few to vote for all, that is simply not right. Many Americans are getting back to work as we recover from this Wuhan Virus pandemic, Congress should be no different.

GOOD SAMARITAN MENSTRUAL  
PRODUCTS ACT AND PERIOD  
POVERTY AWARENESS RESOLU-  
TION

**HON. GRACE MENG**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce two pieces of legislation in recognition of this week being National Period Poverty Awareness Week, and today being Menstrual Hygiene Day.

Madam Speaker, more than half of the U.S. population will likely menstruate every month for decades of their lives. Unfortunately, studies have shown that 1 in 4 women and girls report that they struggle to afford menstrual products. This lack of menstrual products is often called "period poverty," and it can adversely affect a person's health and well-being. It is further heartbreaking that 1 in 5 women and girls report missing work or school due to a lack of access to menstrual products. Period poverty, in fact, is linked with self-perception and mental health. It also exacerbates the cycle of poverty by further marginalizing those who menstruate, causing them to withdraw from daily life, forego pay, or miss educational opportunities. It also impacts one's physical health, as the risk of infections increase with use of substitutes, such as paper towels or toilet paper, or because of an inability to change products as frequently as recommended.

This is unthinkable and simply wrong. Menstrual equity—one's equitable access to menstrual products—is not a luxury; it is a health right, and a human right.

Of course, this period poverty existed long before the COVID-19 pandemic; but today, with over 40 million Americans now out of work due to the pandemic, the socioeconomic and health challenges of individuals facing period poverty is further enhanced and heightened.

Madam Speaker, periods do not wait for pandemics. Ultimately, menstrual products are essential to the health and economic well-being of individuals in both overcoming and recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic.

My resolution raises awareness regarding period poverty. It also urges local, State, and Federal agencies to ensure free access to menstrual products for individuals in need during the COVID-19 response, including for essential frontline workers; students; low-income families; individuals experiencing homelessness; and incarcerated and detained individuals.

Additionally, to encourage greater donation and distribution of menstrual products to individuals who need such products, I introduced the Good Samaritan Menstrual Products Act. In times of tragedy and need, Americans have always come together in the spirit of generosity. But alas, due to certain menstrual products like tampons being considered "Class 2" medical products, such designations deter the donation of such products—out of fear of liability issues. As such, liability concerns, even for products donated in good faith, limit both the supply and availability of menstrual products, as well as individuals' choices in how their menstruation needs are met.

As such, my bill—the Good Samaritan Menstrual Products Act—would provide the liability protection for donated and distributed menstrual products that are given and received in good faith. As we strive to expand one's ability to access these products, my bill would support the generosity of those who donate and distribute these products.

Madam Speaker, as I continue to fight for menstrual equity for all, I urge my colleagues to support both pieces of legislation so we can end period poverty—once and for all.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BILL FLORES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. FLORES. Madam Speaker, had I been present on May 27, 2020, I would have voted Yea on S. 3744, the Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020. Communist China's oppression of millions of its minority Uyghurs population is a gross violation of human rights. In passing this bill, Congress is showing that the United States will not turn a blind eye to the suffering of those oppressed by the Communist Chinese regime.

H.R. 7010, PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM FLEXIBILITY ACT OF 2020 AND H.R. 6782, THE TRUTH ACT

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, today the House of Representatives is voting on two pieces of legislation designed to improve upon the Paycheck Protection Program—the Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act of 2020, and the TRUTH Act.

Although I am a cosponsor of both pieces of legislation and will vote in favor of them, I remain concerned that these bills fall short of the Paycheck Protection Program fixes which were already included in the HEROES Act—legislation that the House has passed and which is pending action by the Senate.

For example—I am glad that the Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act of 2020 includes provisions to modify the use of PPP loans, providing businesses with 24 weeks (instead of just 8 weeks) to use the loan. This bill also makes more flexible the requirement imposed by the Small Business Administration that 75 percent of the loan be used for payroll, and instead only requires 60 percent of the loan to be used for payroll in order to receive the full amount of forgiveness.

Unfortunately, this bill fails to include many of the provisions from the HEROES Act that are urgently needed to assist in our nation's economic recovery. For example, the HEROES Act extended eligibility for PPP loans to nonprofits of all sizes and would carve out funds specifically for the smallest businesses—those with 10 or fewer employees—ensuring that they are not left behind. By expanding PPP to all nonprofits, the HEROES Act would allow chambers of commerce and other nonprofit entities that are not classified as a 501(c)(3) to take advantage of this important assistance. Additionally, the HEROES Act removes the size restrictions for nonprofits, allowing nonprofits with more than 500 employees to still maintain payroll during this time of economic hardship, while their services are needed more than ever.

The HEROES Act—section 20235—also clarifies that expenses paid or incurred with proceeds from PPP loans (or EIDL grants) would not result in the denial of any federal tax deduction. Small businesses need as much support as possible at this time, and tax

provisions such as this in the HEROES Act would provide a much-needed boost to our economy. Unfortunately, the two PPP bills we are voting on in the House today fail to include the full gamut of improvements from the HEROES Act, including this additional tax assistance for small businesses.

I will be voting in support of these bills but believe that it is essential that we not stop here—Congress must improve the PPP and small business assistance beyond what these bills would provide. The HEROES Act provides a strong model for what these changes should entail, and I urge my colleagues to continue improving these programs, even after these PPP bills pass the House.

CONGRATULATING THOMAS “TOM” TROMPETER ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Thomas “Tom” Trompeter, President and CEO of HealthPoint in Washington State, on his retirement.

Tom Trompeter's career spans over 30 years in the non-profit, healthcare, and social services sectors. Tom began his career as Executive Director for Northwest Regional Primary Care Association (NWRPCA) and the Association of Community and Migrant Health Centers in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. Tom left NWRPCA as CEO before moving on to work at Community Health Centers of King County, now known as HealthPoint. In 1998 Tom transitioned into the roles of President and CEO at HealthPoint and has dedicated 20 years of his career in those roles.

Tom's three prominent areas of impact at HealthPoint were public policy to support the expansion and financial health of community health centers, developing vital partnerships and networks to strengthen the work being done by HealthPoint, and good stewardship as a passionate and dependable leader.

Tom led with the belief that when we make even one person healthier, we help not only that one person, but also that person's whole community. And that's both a privilege and a gift. It is clear Tom has led with that belief from the beginning. Tom has guided HealthPoint's growth to its current state of over 17 comprehensive primary care centers that provide innovative, integrated care beyond traditional healthcare models.

Tom's influence can be seen in the 100,000 plus patients served annually, 900 current employees, and the students who have had the opportunity to learn under Tom's leadership and go on to pursue a career in community health.

Madam Speaker, it is with great admiration that I recognize and congratulate Tom Trompeter on his retirement and the legacy he will leave in the healthcare community in Washington State.

## AMERICAN HERO SAM JOHNSON

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, my wife Roxanne and I will always cherish the inspiring opportunity to serve in Congress with Congressman Sam Johnson who died yesterday. He and his late wife Shirley were always encouraging and the embodiment of American Patriots. I include in the RECORD a worthy tribute published today in The Washington Times written by Will Weissert.

[From the Associated Press, May 27, 2020]

SAM JOHNSON, EX-TEXAS GOP CONGRESSMAN AND VIETNAM POW, DIES

(By Will Weissert)

Former Texas Rep. Sam Johnson, a military pilot who spent years as a prisoner of war in Vietnam before serving more than two decades in Congress, died Wednesday at age 89.

The conservative Republican, who lived in the northern Dallas suburb of Plano, died at a Plano hospital of natural causes unrelated to the coronavirus outbreak, said his former spokesman, Ray Sullivan.

Johnson flew nearly 100 combat missions in Korea and Vietnam. He was flying a bombing mission in 1966 when he was shot down and wounded. He was imprisoned in the infamous “Hanoi Hilton” for nearly seven years, mostly in solitary confinement. He retired from the Air Force as a colonel in 1979, after a 29-year career.

The ardent conservative and anti-communist was elected to Congress in 1991 after six years in the Texas House of Representatives. He vowed to stay a maximum of 12 years, though he served more than double that.

Johnson had been a POW with U.S. Sen. John McCain, and although they clashed in Congress, Johnson defended McCain in 2015, when then-presidential candidate Donald Trump suggested he wasn't a hero because he'd been captured. Johnson announced in January 2017 that he would retire at the end of his term. When Johnson stepped down in 2019, at age 88, he was the oldest member of the U.S. House.

“Scripture tells us ‘There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven,’” Johnson wrote in a January 2017 letter to constituents, telling them he would retire at the end of his term. “For me, the Lord has made clear that the season of my life in Congress is coming to an end.”

Another former Texas congressman, Ralph Hall, was the oldest-ever member of the U.S. House when he left office at age 91 in 2014. Hall, a Republican and World War II pilot, was 95 when he died in March 2019.

Samuel Robert Johnson was born on Oct. 11, 1930, in San Antonio. He grew up in Dallas, married Shirley Lee Melton in 1950 and graduated the following year from his hometown's Southern Methodist University with a degree in business administration.

Johnson enlisted in the military at age 20 and served during the Korean and Vietnam wars. He was 35 on April 16, 1966, and flying a night mission carrying loads of napalm, when his aircraft came under heavy enemy fire over Vietnam.

The gun of Johnson's F-4 Phantom II jammed and the plane was hit. Its right engine caught fire, forcing Johnson and co-pilot Larry Chesley to eject, and the future congressman broke his arm and back and dislocated his shoulder.

Johnson recalled trudging through the jungle before being surrounded by North Vietnamese soldiers who took him to the infamous Hoa Lo Prison, better known as the "Hanoi Hilton." He endured what he would later describe as 3-foot by 8-foot, rat-infested "dark and filthy cell."

"Forty-two of those months were spent in solitary confinement with 10 other fine American patriots because the Vietcong labeled us 'die hard' resisters," Johnson wrote in 2015.

He recalled tapping code on the wall to communicate with other Americans being held, and that "our captors would blare nasty recordings over the loud speaker of Americans protesting back home."

While speaking on the House floor in 2003, Johnson said his faith only got stronger through captivity. He recalled how one day his captors put him against a wall and promised to execute him with machine guns.

"I started praying harder than I have ever prayed in my life. In a few seconds, the guns went click, click, click, click, click," Johnson told the chamber. "It is only because of the grace of God I survived."

He was released and flew out of Hanoi on Feb. 12, 1973. He earned a master's degree at George Washington University in Washington in 1976. He retired from the Air Force three years later and began a home-building business. He was elected to the Texas Legislature in 1984 and went to Congress following a special election in 1991, after Rep. Steve Bartlett resigned to become Dallas mayor.

Representing Plano and other conservative northern suburbs of Dallas, Johnson was known for his work on veterans' affairs and for his efforts to bolster the financial standing of the Social Security program. He took office backing term limits, yet he stayed in Congress more than double his promised maximum of 12 years.

When Bill Clinton ran for president in 1992, Johnson and other Republican military veterans in Congress alleged that Russian intelligence lured Clinton to Moscow during the Vietnam war when "I was sitting in a POW camp in Vietnam eating fish eyes and pig fat." Questions about Clinton's patriotism dogged him during his first campaign, but the allegations made by Johnson and the others were largely soon forgotten.

As a prisoner of war, Johnson shared a cell with McCain, who would later become a U.S. senator from Arizona. But the pair later clashed on political issues—including McCain's efforts to eventually help normalize U.S. relations with Vietnam. Still, Johnson criticized Trump for suggesting McCain was no hero.

"Comments like those of Donald Trump, or any other American, suggesting that veterans like Senator John McCain or any other of America's honorable POWs are less brave for having been captured are not only misguided, they are ungrateful and naïve," Johnson wrote in 2015.

In February 2018—marking the 45th anniversary of the operation that led to his release—Johnson donated a chipped green tin cup issued by his captors and tube of toothpaste he smuggled out of North Vietnam to the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. Johnson recalled then how he and other prisoners would communicate by tapping on the walls and how he'd hold his cup against them to amplify sounds and better hear their messages.

In his autobiography, "Captive Warriors: A Vietnam POW's Story," Johnson wrote of the cup: "For me, it symbolized our war of resistance for seven long years. It had been a means of communication and, as such, a means of survival."

Johnson's wife died on Dec. 3, 2015 at their home in Plano at age 85. He is survived by

his adult daughters, Gini Johnson Mulligan and Beverly Johnson Briney, and 10 grandchildren. His son, James Robert "Bob" Johnson, died in 2013 at age 61.

#### COMMEMORATING THE 102ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE AZERBAIJAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

#### HON. KEVIN HERN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 102nd anniversary of Republic Day in Azerbaijan, which recognizes the establishment of the first independent, secular democracy in the Middle East in 1918.

While they spent much of the 20th century under Soviet control, their undying faith in democracy was rewarded in 1991 when the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic reclaimed its independence after the collapse of the USSR. The United States swiftly established diplomatic relations in 1992.

A reliable American ally, Azerbaijani troops have fought side-by-side with Americans against international terrorism in Afghanistan, Balkans, and Iraq. They help secure international energy security of our allies through their support of Southern Gas Corridor and the diversification of energy routes. A friend of Israel, they provide 40 percent of Israel's oil consumption. Azerbaijan is a secular Muslim-majority country dedicated to religious pluralism and home to thriving Christian and Jewish communities.

As an Oklahoman and member of the Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus, I am proud that Azerbaijan's friendship with the United States is celebrated in my home state through the Oklahoma-Azerbaijan National Guard Partnership.

I once again wish to extend my sincere congratulations to our partners in Azerbaijan on this worthy day.

#### ADVOCATING FOR CRITICAL FUNDING FOR TRIBAL NATIONS IN THE HEROES ACT

#### HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Heroes Act and to address the critical need for emergency funding for tribal nations.

Native Americans have been hit disproportionately hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Navajo Nation has experienced nearly 5,000 positive cases and the loss of more than 100 lives. In addition, the Colorado River Indians Tribes on the border of my district and Arizona have seen a sudden rise in cases over the past weeks.

Native Americans remain at particular risk because they face greater health disparities and have higher rates of underlying health conditions than the general population. In addition, those living on rural reservations have reduced access to health services and preventative care.

The toll on tribal nations isn't just affecting those who are sick. Many Native Americans work in service jobs that have disproportionately been lost, and many tribal governments rely on income from business enterprises that have closed their doors to comply with stay-at-home orders.

The Heroes Act was written with these communities in mind.

This bill represents the House of Representatives' commitment to fulfilling the trust and treaty responsibility of the United States government to tribal nations across the United States.

The Heroes Act provides an additional \$20 billion to tribal governments in the form of grants to help address the catastrophic impact of this virus and the economic toll it has taken on Indian Country and their surrounding communities.

The Heroes Act expands the use of the funds provided by the CARES Act to account for lost revenue, which is critical to providing effective relief for tribal governments.

It is important to note that unlike the portion of the Coronavirus Relief Fund provided to states and local governments, the fund for tribal governments explicitly does not prescribe a population-based formula for distribution to tribes. Such a formula would be inappropriate given that population is not a proper measure of economic impact that a tribal government and tribally-run businesses have experienced.

This bill also does not codify the current Indian Housing Block Grant formula that the Department of Treasury is using, because such a formula is not representative of the intent of the program.

It is the intent of Congress that the Department of Treasury works with the Department of Interior and tribal governments to develop a new formula that accounts for the tribes' aggregate expenditures and the total economic hit they have taken as a result of this pandemic.

This is an issue that is critical for Indian Country. I am proud to have voted for the Heroes Act and look forward to seeing the program implemented as Congress intended to support tribal governments.

#### RECOGNIZING AND HONORING JONATHAN CORONADO, KATHERINE PARDY, AND AINSLEY POWERS

#### HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Jonathan Coronado from Stevens Senior High School, Katherine Pardy from O'Gorman High School, and Ainsley Powers from Brookings High School for their recognition as 2020 U.S. Presidential Scholars.

Jonathan, Katherine, and Ainsley have been recognized for their impressive scholastic achievements, leadership skills, and service to their communities. The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program honors our nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors, and I am proud of each of these students for bringing this high honor to the State of South Dakota. They have graduated in an unprecedented time and I'm sure they will each find

unparallel solutions to the issues they face. Each have shown determination in the face of hardship, confidence in the face of uncertainty, and humility in the face of adversity. I am proud of the contributions they each have made and will continue to make to South Dakota.

Our state and country are better because of hard working citizens like Jonathan, Katherine, and Ainsley. I would like to congratulate them each on their dedication and impressive recognition.

JASON WARING

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jason Waring for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Jason Waring is a 11th grader at Bollman Technical Education Center/Legacy High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jason Waring is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jason Waring for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF  
NYPD DETECTIVE JOSEPH GUIDICE

**HON. LEE M. ZELDIN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. ZELDIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Detective Joseph Guidice and his culmination of 25 years of distinguished service in the New York City Police Department. Detective Guidice went above and beyond as a detective, officer, and teacher to assist and advance our law enforcement's aptitude and ability in investigating auto crime.

In 1995, Detective Guidice started his career as a patrol officer in the NYPD's 109th and 30th Precincts. After five years of service, his exceptional skill and drive propelled him to the rank of investigator in the Auto Crime Division and, eventually, detective in 2002.

While continuing to serve as a citywide investigator in conjunction with local, state and federal agencies, in 2005, Detective Guidice began teaching the NYPD's four-day intensive Fundamentals of Auto Theft Investigation course. Over his 15 years of instruction, he has trained upwards of 17,000 special investigation unit professionals from across the globe, inspiring the next generation of law enforcement.

For his professional excellence and accomplishment, Detective Guidice has been praised

by the NYPD with their commendation for meritorious and excellent police duty on three separate occasions and was given its prestigious 20-year perfect attendance award in 2018.

On behalf of my constituents, the State of New York and our nation, I want to deeply thank Detective Guidice for being a standard-bearer of honorable service in the New York City Police Department. I wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

WITCH HUNT IN ISRAEL

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, just mere days after being sworn into office for a fifth term as Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu stood in an Israeli court to stand trial in what amounts to nothing more than a political witch hunt. Formally charged with bribery, fraud, and breach of trust, Prime Minister has denied all wrongdoing from the very outset and has called for an open, televised trial so that the entire world can stand witness to the circus the Israeli left has put together with the sole intention of humiliating Israel's longest serving premier in the hopes that he will step down.

One of the charges in the criminal case against Prime Minister Netanyahu, known as "case 4000," alleges unsubstantiated charges. The distinguished lawyer and Harvard professor Alan Dershowitz perhaps described it best when he said, "Netanyahu's trial poses great danger to democracy and the rule of law. This is the first time in the history of any modern country that a man is being prosecuted for trying to gain positive media coverage."

As we watch this farce play out, we should also remember that a criminal trial of a sitting head of state is a situation that could only take place in the Middle East's sole democracy. At the same time, the partisan nature of the charges and the trial cheapen the value of Israel's democratic and legalistic spirit. Knesset Speaker Yariv Levin commented that "the day of the opening of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's trial will be remembered as one of the low points of the Israeli legal system." Levin went on to say, "The charges against the prime minister are unprecedented in Western democracies. Their realm, if at all, should have been the ethical and noncriminal sphere, and it's no wonder why the world's top jurists have been harshly criticizing it."

Indeed, the sham trial against Netanyahu comes at especially ironic times as the Prime Minister won the highest number of votes of any party since the establishment of the Israel state. This mandate from the Israeli electorate was a personal expression of confidence in the Prime Minister as well as a clear sign that the Israeli public has lost all trust in a judicial system rigged along party lines to force the hand of a popular leader and push him out of the political system.

Knesset Speaker Levin concluded his comments on the matter by saying, "I, like millions of Israeli citizens, stand with the prime minister today. With the truth. With justice." May the truth come to light and may justice prevail.

The similarity with America is obvious that political enemies of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu are abusing the legal system just as the false efforts to impeach President Donald Trump were a witch hunt. Forces who lose on issues at the ballot box seek to subvert the votes of citizens.

RECOGNIZING REV. DR. DALE A.  
MEYER

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of the Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer upon the occasion of his retirement as President of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis.

In May 2005, Dr. Meyer became the 10th President of Concordia Seminary. Over fifteen years later, on June 30, 2020, Dr. Meyer will start a new season in life, retiring and turning over the reins of this beloved institution to new leadership.

His contribution to the Seminary was immense. During his tenure, Concordia's long-term debt was eliminated, its endowment quadrupled, and it earned top marks from its most recent accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission and the Association of Theological Schools.

From the start of his tenure to the end, Dr. Meyer worked alongside his wife Diane, the faculty and key staff to cultivate a culture that was service oriented and external facing. This meant instituting activities designed to instill a spirit of community volunteerism into first year students. This meant adding park benches on campus and expanding holiday displays each year so visitors knew they are welcome at this place. It meant working with his wife, Diane, and Gayle Zollmann-Kiel, Coordinator of Campus Grounds, to create community gardens for people to enjoy all summer and fall, thereby feeding the community both spiritually and figuratively. And it meant, during the current pandemic, having the bell tower on campus play music to lift the spirits of all those around.

No wonder the Seminary received several civic awards—including being named among the 100 Top Workplaces St. Louis in 2015.

Dr. Meyer's retirement marks a season of change for the Seminary. However, it also marks the closing of a chapter of a long career of service for him personally. While Dr. Meyer's first job was helping his parents, Arthur and Norma Meyer, deliver milk for the Dixie Dairy on the south side of Chicago, he was called to serve on a full and winding professional path. This path was so full of wonder that he would often marvel at the "milk man moments" that unfolded—remarking, "What I am doing here—God has blessed me so."

Dr. Meyer completed his bachelor's degree in 1969 at Concordia Senior College in Fort Wayne, Indiana. After earning a Master of Divinity from Concordia Seminary in 1973, he earned a Master's degree a year later, and a doctorate in 1986 in classical languages from Washington University in St. Louis. He also is the recipient of an honorary Doctor of Divinity in 1993 from Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dr. Meyer first joined the faculty at Concordia Seminary as a guest instructor in

1979, going on to serve as head pastor of St. Salvator Lutheran Church in Venedy, Illinois, St. Peter Lutheran Church in New Memphis, Illinois, and at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Collinsville, Illinois. These church communities are so beloved by the Meyers that they continue to worship at all three parishes to this day.

It was also at Holy Cross Lutheran that I, and my wife Karen, came to know Dr. Meyer and his family. Our lives have been intertwined, to say the least: Diane sold us our first home; I taught the oldest of two daughters, Elizabeth, civics at Metro East Lutheran High School and ran the first of many 5k races to come with his youngest daughter, Katie; my own children played music in their daughter's wedding; my wife Karen served as the head organist at Holy Cross with Dale; and so on.

Dr. Meyer moved on from Holy Cross in 1989 after being selected to serve as Speaker on The Lutheran Hour radio program at Lutheran Hour Ministries. The Lutheran Hour is the world's oldest continually broadcast Gospel radio program, first airing in 1930. Dr. Meyer also hosted the national television show *On Main Street* for Lutheran Hour Ministries. In 2001, *On Main Street* episodes received two prestigious Emmy awards from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences St. Louis/Mid-America Chapter. During this time, he took part in some of his favorite "milk man moments," including opening both the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives in prayer.

In addition to his published writings, Dr. Meyer served in numerous leadership capacities—such as third vice-president of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; a charter board member of the Association of Lutheran Older Adults; an Honorary Director of God's Word to the Nations Bible Society; and as a Board of Trustee of the American Bible Society.

Dr. Meyer finally returned home to Concordia Seminary in St. Louis in 2001, serving as the Gregg H. Benidt Memorial Chair in Homiletics and Literature. He became interim president in 2004, and the 10th president of the institution in 2005. For the next fifteen years, he could be seen working on the campus grounds, attending Bach at the Sem, and strolling with Ferdie, the oversized-in-body-and-heart golden retriever that became a quasi-mascot on campus and, sadly, recently passed away.

Dr. Meyer likes to tell students that: "It is great time to be the church." As the world suffers greatly from the pandemic, we are grateful for his efforts to raise public servants to serve all who are hurting, and to share the Gospel loud and clear for all to hear.

As Dr. Meyer begins this beautiful journey of retirement, he will enjoy more time with his two grown daughters, Elizabeth (Lizzie) Pittman and Katie (Catharine) Bailey, their spouses, Darren and Charles, and the five grandsons that he refers to as *Cinco de Meyer*: Christian, Connor and Nicholas Pittman, and Andrew and Jacob Bailey.

Madam Speaker, I want to personally thank Dr. Meyer and his wife Diane for their ministry.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCER ASSISTANCE FOR COVID-19 DAMAGES ACT

### HON. JIM HAGEDORN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Mr. HAGEDORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today because America's livestock industry is in crisis.

Across southern Minnesota and in many areas of our nation, pork producers are especially in trouble. Packing plant closures and disruptions and other reverberations associated with COVID-19 and the pause in our economy have depressed futures markets and made it impossible to process hogs. Many of our producers are being forced to destroy animals and not even use the meat for our food supply.

To mitigate production losses incurred by our pork producers, this week I introduced the "Livestock Producer Assistance for COVID-19 Damages Act." My legislation is designed to augment the United States Department of Agriculture's existing Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm Raised Catfish program to cover income losses for farmers and producers who have been unable to market livestock due to packing plant closures or reduced operations beginning on April 19, 2020.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, our livestock farmers in southern Minnesota and throughout the nation have been pushed to the brink of insolvency. This represents a direct threat to our nation's food supply and the vibrancy of the economy and our rural communities.

During this pause in our economy, restaurants have been largely shut down, which has caused reduced demand and dramatically lower futures markets for pork, beef and other cuts of meat. On top of that, we have had packing plant disruptions and closures that have created an environment where market ready hogs cannot even be processed and distributed into the food chain.

Because the pork industry uses an in-time delivery system, hogs cannot be stored or pastured like other traditional crops and animals. Until meat packing plants return fully online, many pork producers are left with no place to market their hogs, leaving euthanasia, rendering or composting as some of the only options for handling potentially millions of pigs.

The outlook is especially challenging for independent farmers who own and raise their own livestock. In the past few months, hog prices plunged 26 percent, further compounding challenges for livestock producers to develop additional options for selling their hogs.

In Minnesota, our farmers make huge contributions to the state's economy. According to a study by the University of Minnesota, current disruptions in the pork supply chain, coupled with the current 15 percent unemployment rate, could result in an estimated loss of \$660 million in economic activity in our state.

The researchers also concluded that a 15 percent drop in hog production would lead to an estimated loss of 2,100 jobs.

Because pork and livestock producers are suffering huge losses, financial and otherwise, and through no fault of their own, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join

me in supporting this bill. We must stand with our family farmers, and in so doing defend the interests of our economy, rural communities and America's food supply.

RECOGNIZING ANTHONY D. GIAMPETRO

### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Anthony D. Giampetro, who will celebrate his 100th birthday on June 9, 2020.

Mr. Giampetro served proudly with the U.S. Army Air Force for three and a half years during World War II. He was a Ground Crew Mechanic, working on single engine fighter aircraft. At various times, he was based in England, Tunisia, Algeria, Sicily, and mainland Italy.

After his military service, Tony became a principal in the accounting firm of Reali, Giampetro, and Scott. He has long since retired, but to this day, he still performs accounting and tax service for some of his long-term clients. He is also retired from volunteering with Trumbull County Mobile Meals.

Tony was married to his beloved wife Rosemary, from November 28, 1946, until her death on October 18, 1994. They have one daughter, Annette, who is married to Robert Meek. Tony has two grandsons and two great grandchildren.

Tony lives in Youngstown but has been an active member of the Rotary Club of Girard-Liberty for 37 years. It is my honor to wish Mr. Giampetro the happiest of birthdays and thank him for his dedicated service to our country and community.

RECOGNIZING NAILING IT FOR AMERICA IN HONOR OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

### HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month to recognize Nailing It For America and their mission, "Operation: Nailing It for Health Care Workers," to support the shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) by coordinating and distributing to frontline workers. The Nailing It Team has donated hundreds of thousands of PPE to various hospitals and healthcare clinics from the beginning of California's stay at home order.

Through collaborative efforts, the Nailing It team, consisting of leaders from Advance Beauty College, Whale Spa, Studio 18 Nail Bar, with other nail salon owners and others, rallied the community to donate their PPE supplies. In the first ten days of combining their efforts, their team collected 120,000 face masks and more than 300,000 gloves that were delivered to healthcare workers in 40 hospitals and medical clinics. Additionally, the Nailing It team's efforts has encouraged more than 15 restaurant owners to join their initiative to deliver freshly prepared, packaged meals to healthcare workers.



Orange County is home to a vibrant Vietnamese community, which I am proud to represent. An estimated eighty percent of nail salon businesses in California are owned by Vietnamese proprietors, who had to close their doors due to the pandemic. Many owners and manicurists face day-to-day struggles as they try to keep their businesses afloat while providing for their families.

Despite facing financial hardships and day-to-day challenges of this pandemic, the Nailing It team has embodied the spirit of kindness and compassion through these times. I encourage my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Nailing It for America team in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

ZACHARY McMILLAN

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Zachary McMillan for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Zachary McMillan is a 12th grader at Bollman Technical Education Center/Legacy High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Zachary McMillan is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Zachary McMillan for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

### RECOGNIZING THE 102ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC DAY OF AZERBAIJAN

### HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 102nd anniversary of Azerbaijan's Republic Day. On this day in 1918, Azerbaijan emerged from autocracy to establish a Parliamentary Republic. Today, it shines as an example of freedom in a region of the world historically plagued in the darkness of repression and inequality.

Republic Day honors the declaration of independence from the Russian Empire. While the rise of the Soviet Union would undermine its sovereignty once again within two years, the achievements in state building Azerbaijan made in those two years are a testament to the abilities of a free Azeri people.

In 1991, Azerbaijan emerged once again, seizing the opportunity presented to them, declaring its right to govern itself and live free. This symbolic emergence ensured the world that this was a continuation on the freedom

and progress assembled between 1918 and 1920.

Since then, our nations have worked strongly together to promote energy security, increase bilateral trade and investment, and counter terrorism and transnational threats. It has been my great honor to aid in the maintenance of strong ties between our nations, and I look forward to furthering our cooperation to continue to bring peace, security, and stability to the region.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate the Republic of Azerbaijan and its people for its proud history in the pursuit of freedom and its commitment to developing solutions to modern problems. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this day and wish another century of strength and prosperity on Azerbaijan.

### PANDEMIC HEROES COMPENSATION ACT

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Committees on the Judiciary and on Homeland Security, and founder and Co-Chair of the Congressional Coronavirus Taskforce, I rise in strong support of the Pandemic Heroes Compensation Act, a bill that would create a compensation fund for all essential workers and personnel who have been injured or impacted by COVID-19.

Modeled after the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund, the fund would provide compensation for injuries to any individual, or the families, across all essential industries who were deemed an essential worker and required to leave their homes to perform their services and became ill or died as a result of COVID-19.

Every day we learn more about the unprecedented impact that the COVID-19 virus has had on American lives across the nation.

To date, there are more than 1,676,401 confirmed cases, over 98,000 dead, including 54,509 cases and 1,506 deaths in my home state of Texas, and 10,921 cases and 221 deaths in Harris County.

On top of that, by taking the necessary measures to slow the pandemic and 'flatten the curve' so as not to overwhelm the nation's health care system, economic activity in the United States has experienced a severe shock to the system.

More than 40 million initial unemployment claims in the past month alone.

In addition, on March 23, 2020, the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) dipped to 18,321.62, which is even lower than it was on Election Night 2016, and far below the 19,827 mark where it stood on January 20, 2017.

In other words, Madam Speaker, all the gains that were made to the stock market and heralded by this Administration as evidence of its genius have been wiped out, depleting the retirement savings and 401(k) funds of millions of ordinary Americans.

We will overcome this crisis and become better and stronger for it.

But we must never forget who waged the battle to contain the pandemic, risking their lives and livelihoods on the frontline.

Courageous first responders, transit workers, brave healthcare workers, fearless gro-

cery store clerks and delivery workers, as well as many other federal, state, local and tribal employees who have been deemed essential workers.

These workers are risking their health and safety to continue to provide essential services to their communities and our families.

As recently as April 2020, the Center for Disease Control reported that over 9,200 health care professionals have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and 27 have died from the virus.

Research shows that essential workers often work in low-wage positions that require risky face-to-face interactions without adequate protection; they are disproportionately African American or Hispanic.

They are most at risk of illness during the COVID-19 pandemic, but in many cases, least able to afford the financial setback that can result from any interruption in work.

When a loved one becomes ill on the job, the cost of healthcare and lost wages can create additional burden on families.

Madam Speaker, we have a moral and patriotic obligation to stand behind them and their families by ensuring their financial stability.

Now, more than ever, our essential workers need help and I urge all Members to join me in voting to pass the Pandemic Heroes Compensation Act.

### RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF GWEN KANIA, PRESIDENT OF THE TIOGA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

### HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the retirement of Gwen Kania, President of the Tioga County Chamber of Commerce.

Gwen came to the Chamber in May of 2008 as the Director of Operations and in January of 2014, she became the President and CEO of the Tioga County Chamber of Commerce. During her time with the Chamber, Gwen put into action a Computer Management System that streamlined processes. She also organized Career Day and the Tioga County Job Fair. For three years, she administered the On The Job Training Grant from the New York State Department of Labor.

Gwen was also in the public eye, facilitating the Chamber's traditional events and ribbon cuttings, providing service to the community. One highlight Gwen enjoyed most in recent times was the Chamber's Centennial Celebration and Gala in 2019. For several years, Gwen was also the Leadership Tioga Program Manager and Facilitator.

The Tioga County Chamber of Commerce will greatly miss Gwen and her efforts there have not gone unnoticed. However, her retirement is well deserved. I thank Gwen for all she has done during her time at the Chamber.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to congratulate Gwen on her retirement and her twelve years of invaluable service to the Tioga County Chamber of Commerce and dedication to improving the Tioga County community.



RECOGNIZING ASIAN AMERICAN  
SENIOR CITIZENS SERVICES CEN-  
TER (AASCSC) IN HONOR OF  
ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HER-  
ITAGE MONTH

**HON. J. LUIS CORREA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 28, 2020*

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month to recognize Asian American Senior Citizens Services Center (AASCSC) and their invaluable contribution to the community they serve.

The Asian American Senior Citizens Service Center (AASCSC) is a non-profit organization founded in 1989 that follows the philosophy of "caring for elders as if they were our own."

The Orange County service center office of AASCSC was established in 1991. Their mission is to dedicate their time to raising awareness of the needs of the Asian American elders, providing assistance by accessing essential health care and social services, and promoting a dignified living in the community.

AASCSC is a leader in service and advocacy for the elderly who are determined to provide thorough direct services, policy advocacy, and capacity building for the Asian Pacific American community. For over 30 years, AASCSC has been an essential resource to ensure the most vulnerable, low-income seniors receive access and equity to quality social and health programs and services. With their bilingual staff and volunteers, AASCSC works to serve and empower their diverse aging community.

These challenging times have impacted AASCSC's vulnerable and high-risk senior cit-

izen community beyond the prevalent public health threat, such as difficulties in obtaining basic needs like toilet paper and food, reduction of income or ability to run their businesses, and an increase in xenophobia towards the Asian American community.

Despite these hardships, AASCSC continues to provide exceptional service and care to their communities by continuing the work towards the 2020 Census, coordinating packaging and distribution of food and basic necessities to thousands of vulnerable seniors, and collaborating and supporting other non-profit organizations with the mission to provide resources to vulnerable families during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the dedicated service of the Asian American Senior Citizens Services Center in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.